

**CLAIMS**

**1.** A method for producing chains for articles of jewellery in the form of a rope, comprising the steps of:

- preparing a plurality of open rings (1),
- gripping and moving the rings (1) so as to prepare a sequence of respective pairs of adjacent rings (1) with respective openings (4) facing each other,
- joining together the adjacent rings (1) of each pair to obtain a closed annular form, the rings (1) of adjoining pairs having first been inserted, so as to obtain a structure with linked rings,  
characterised in that said rings (1) are formed by cutting or stamping from sheet metal and the adjacent rings (1) of each pair are joined to each other with the corresponding limbs (5, 6), located near the respective openings (4), placed back to back, one resting on the other alternately.

**2.** A method according to claim 1 in which said limbs (5, 6) are joined to each other by spot soldering.

**3.** A method according to claim 1 or 2, in which the rings (1) are cut or stamped from sheet metal with a thickness such as to give the ring the form of a flattened annulus not completely closed, defined between opposite annular surfaces (2, 3).

**4.** A method according to one of the preceding claims, comprising the further step of diamond point surface engraving of the opposite surfaces (2, 3) of each ring.

**5.** A method according to one of claims 1 to 3, comprising the step of surface stamping of decorative patterns on the opposite surfaces of each ring (1).

**6.** A chain for articles of jewellery comprising rings (1) linked together with each other produced according to the method in one or more of claims 1 to 5.